



PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY  
AUSTRALIA

# Response to the Disability Royal Commission Easy Read Final Report

January 2024



Easy Read



# What we think about the Disability Royal Commission Final Report



This document is about our response to the **Disability Royal Commission** Final Report.



A **Royal Commission** is how the government looks into a big problem.



When we say PWDA it means People with Disability Australia.



In this document we talk about things that might upset some people.



Lifeline is a service for people at risk of **suicide**.

**Suicide** is when someone ends their own life.



You can call Lifeline any time.

13 11 14



You can use Lifeline chat service to speak to someone.

[www.lifeline.org.au/crisis-chat](http://www.lifeline.org.au/crisis-chat)



Beyond Blue is a service that can support you with your mental health.



You can call them any time.

1300 224 636

# Disability Royal Commission Final Report Recommendations

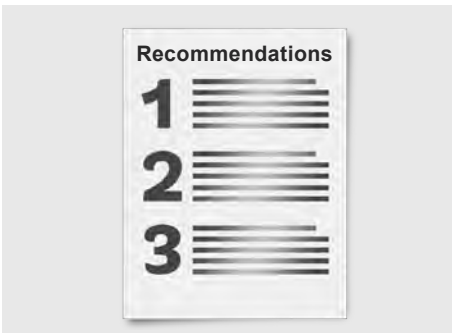


The final report came out on Friday  
29 September 2023.



The final report was made by  
**6 commissioners.**

**Commissioners** are the people who were  
in charge of the Royal Commission.



It lists lots of **recommendations.**



**Recommendations** are what the Royal  
Commission

- Learned
- Thinks we should do to make life better  
for people with disability.



We wanted to find out what people thought about the recommendations in the final report.



We talked to

- Our members
- and the disability community.



This document tells you the PWDA **positions** on some of the recommendations.

A **position** is what we

- Think about the recommendations
- What we think needs to change to make things better for people with disability.

# Position 1 - Disability Rights Act



The Royal Commission recommends there be a new Australian law to protect the rights of people with disability.



The new law would be called the **Disability Rights Act**.



A **Disability Rights Act** will say how governments should protect the rights of people with disability.



The Disability Rights Act must have the rights that are in the **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**.



This is called the **CRPD** for short.



The **CRPD** says the rights all people with disability have.



PWDA supports the recommendation for a Disability Rights Act.



We also recommend the government make a **Human Rights Act**.



## Human Rights Act

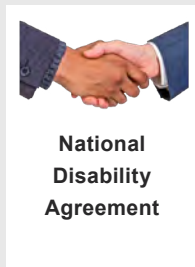


A **Human Rights Act** will say what all peoples rights are and how we can protect them.

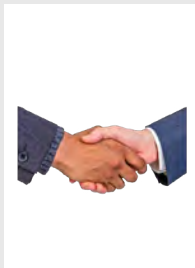


We think people with disability must help make the new laws.

## Position 2 - What governments look after



The Royal Commission recommends Australian governments make a new **National Disability Agreement**.



The **National Disability Agreement** is an agreement between all Australian governments about how they give disability services.



The Royal Commission also recommends Australian governments update all their **disability plans**.



**Disability plans** tell people what Australian governments are doing to make things better for people with disability.



This includes updating the **Australia Disability Strategy**.

The **Australia Disability Strategy** is a plan to make things better for people with disability in all areas of their life.



PWDA supports these recommendations.



We think all updates should only be made if they support the rights in the CRPD.

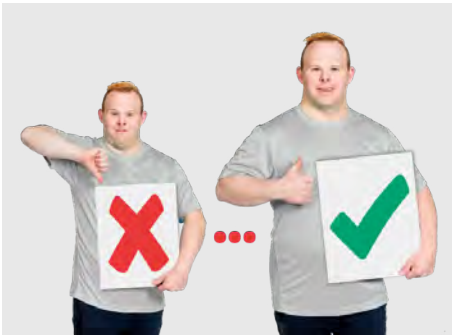


We think people with disability must be part of making the updates.

# Position 3 - How the National Disability Commission works



The Royal Commission recommends making a new **National Disability Commission**.



The **National Disability Commission** should check if life for people with disability is getting better or worse.



PWDA supports this recommendation.



We think the National Disability Commission should include people with disability and their representative organisations.



We think the leader of the National Disability Commission should be a person with disability.

# Position 4 - Minister for Disability Inclusion



The Royal Commission recommends the Australian Government should make a new government department.



The new department will manage **policies** and programs for people with disability and their carers.

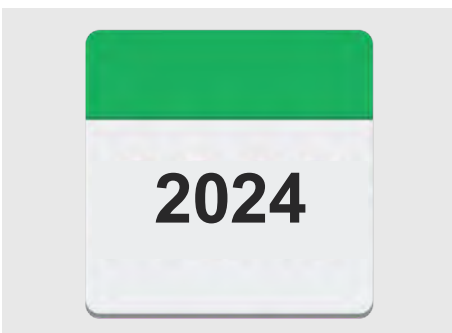
**Policies** are rules everyone has to follow.



Minister for Disability Inclusion

There should be a new **Minister for Disability Inclusion** job.

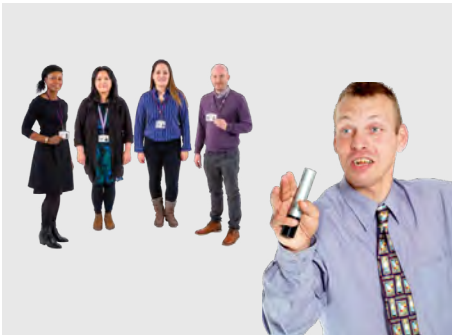
The **Minister for Disability Inclusion** will be the boss of the new department.



This should be done by the end of 2024.

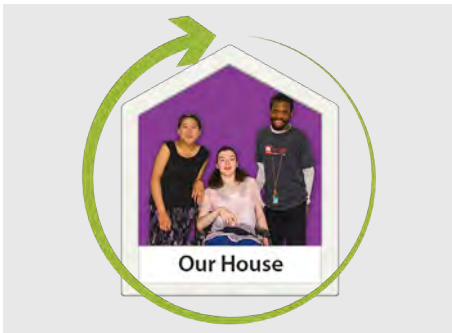


PWDA supports these recommendations.



We think the Minister for Disability  
Inclusion should be a person with disability.

# Position 5 - Time to stop segregated housing



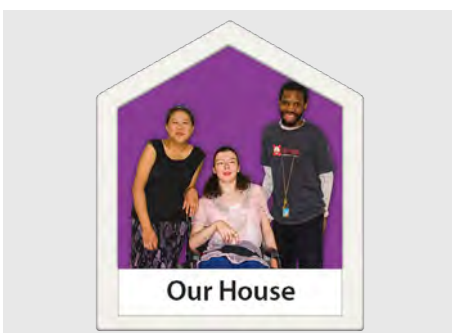
The Royal Commission recommends **segregated housing** change.



**Segregated housing** is when people are put away from other people in the community.



Segregated housing includes **groups homes**.



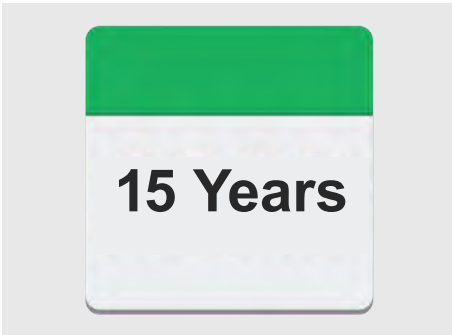
**Group homes** are places where people with disability

- Live together
- Get support.

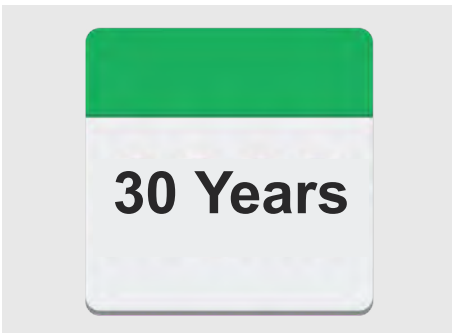




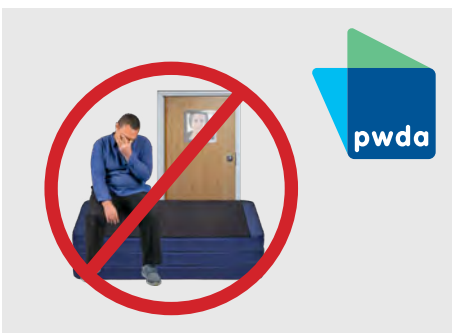
The commissioners have different ideas on when the changes to group homes should happen.



Some commissioners think it will take 15 years to make changes to group homes.



Some commissioners think it will take many more years.

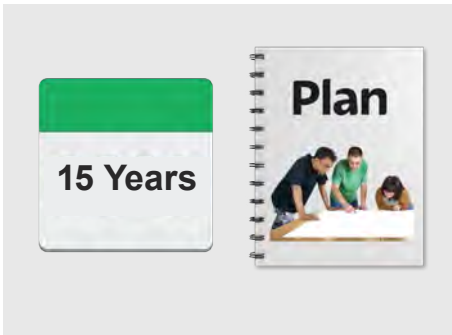


PWDA wants to make sure people with disability are not segregated in group homes.

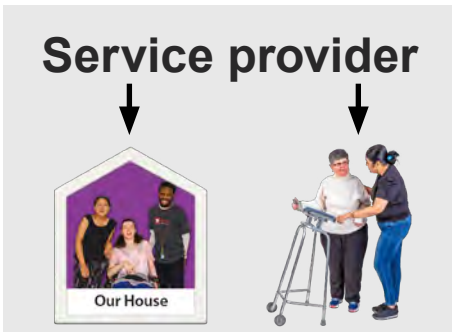


PWDA recommends group homes stop now.

# Position 6 - Plan to stop segregated housing



The Royal Commission has recommended a plan to stop segregated housing in the next 15 years.



The plan includes

- Making sure people do not get supports and housing from the same service provider



- Making housing better for people with disability.



PWDA supports the recommendations in the plan.

# Position 7 - Plan to stop segregated education

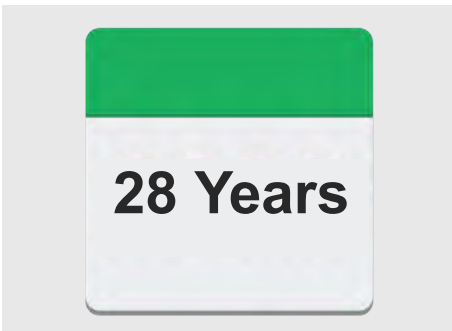


The Royal Commission recommends changes are made to **segregated education**.

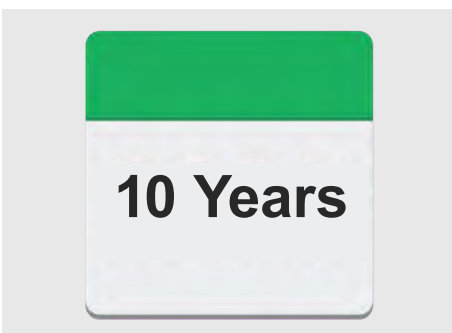
**Segregated education** is where students with disability are kept away from students without disability.



The commissioners have different ideas on segregated education.



Some commissioners think all segregated schools should close over the next 28 years.



PWDA recommends Governments stop segregated education in the next 10 years.



We think Governments must help all schools become **accessible** and **inclusive**.



**Accessible** means everyone can understand or use something.

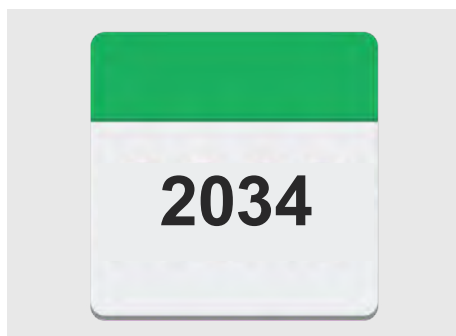


**Inclusive** means everyone is included.



We think people with disability must be a part of making education inclusive and accessible.

## Position 8 - Time to stop segregated employment

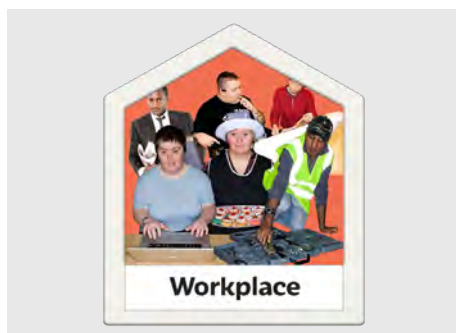


The Royal Commission recommends stopping **segregated employment**.

They think it should be stopped by 2034.



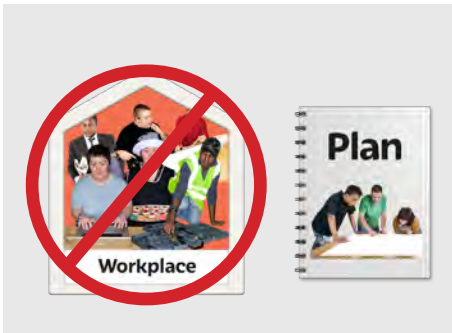
Segregated employment includes workplaces like **Australian Disability Enterprises**.



**Australian Disability Enterprises** are also known as sheltered workshops.



These are businesses where just people with disability work.



The plan to stop segregated employment includes



- Supporting people with disability to get a job in **open employment**

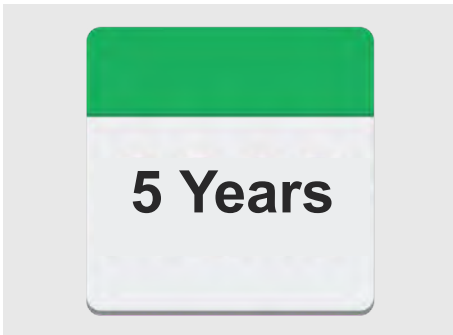
**Open employment** are jobs where people with and without disability work together.



- Sharing information on getting paid for work and the Disability Support Pension



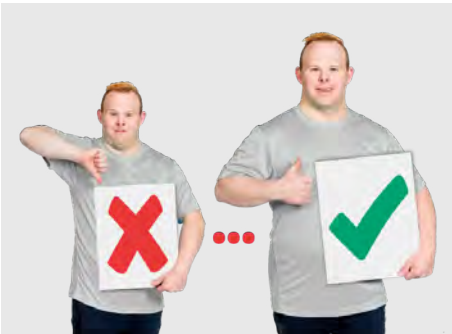
- Making sure the NDIS help people get jobs in open employment.



PWDA recommends segregated employment should stop in the next 5 years.



We think the government should give more money to people with disability so they can



- Have a better life



- Get a job in open employment.



## Position 9 - More money for work



Right now people with disability do not get paid as much as people without disability.



The Royal Commission recommends people with disability get paid the **minimum wage**.

The **minimum wage** is the smallest amount the government says is okay to pay people for work.



They think

- People with disability should be paid half the minimum wage now



- People with disability are paid the minimum wage by 2034.

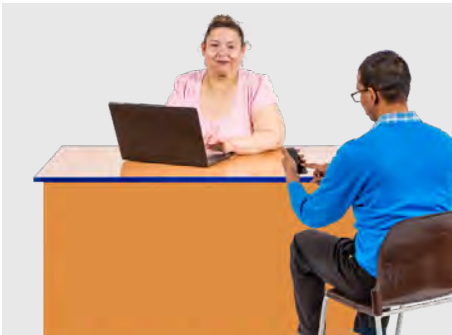


PWDA thinks people with disability must be paid the minimum wage now.

# Position 10 - Public sector jobs for people with disability



The Royal Commission recommends having more people with disability working in the **public sector**.



The **public sector** is businesses run by the Australian government.



PWDA agree there needs to be more people with disability working in the public sector.



All workplaces must be accessible and inclusive in everything they do.



We think people with disability must be a part of helping workplaces become accessible and inclusive.

# Position 11 - How the public sector gives jobs to people with disability



The Royal Commission recommends the government get better at how they hire and employ people with disability.



The government can make all their workplaces accessible and inclusive for people with disability.



This includes making sure all job information is accessible and inclusive.

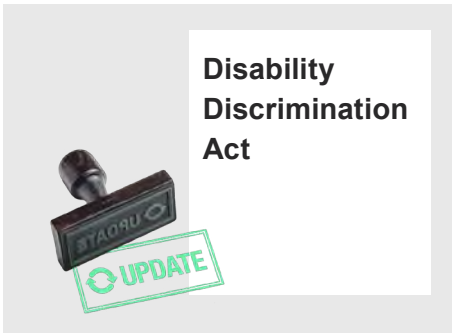


PWDA agrees all government businesses must change how they hire people with disability.



This includes increasing pay for people with disability and making sure workplaces are accessible and inclusive.

# Position 12 - Disability discrimination laws



The Royal Commission recommends updating the **Disability Discrimination Act** to make sure it protects the human rights of people with disability.



The **Disability Discrimination Act** is a law that says people and the government must treat people with disability fairly.



**Disability discrimination** is when you are not treated fair because you have a disability.



PWDA supports this recommendation.

## Position 13 - Interpretative declaration about supported decision making



The Royal Commission recommends the Australian government remove their **interpretive declaration** about **supported decision making**.



An **interpretive declaration** is what a government understands they need to do or what they think.



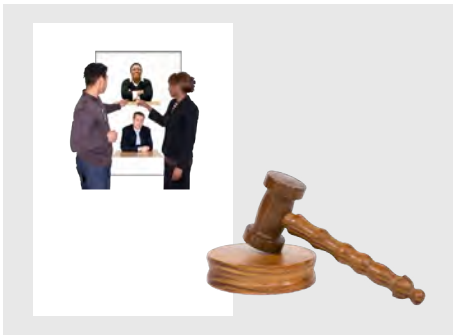
**Supported decision making** is when someone helps you make important decisions about your life and how you want to live.



PWDA supports this recommendation.



# Position 14 - Supported decision-making



The Royal Commission recommends the government make new supported decision making laws.



This will support people with disability to make their own decisions.



PWDA supports this recommendation.

## Position 15 - Restrictive practices



The Royal Commission recommends stopping some **restrictive practices**.



**Restrictive practices** are actions that stop people from

- Moving
- Doing what they want.



PWDA recommends stopping all restrictive practices.

# Position 16 - Restrictive practices in health and education



The Royal Commission recommends some restrictive practices should not be used in places like

- Mental health
- Health
- Education



This includes when someone

- Keeps a person alone in a room or space
- Holds their body so they can not move





- Stops them from leaving.

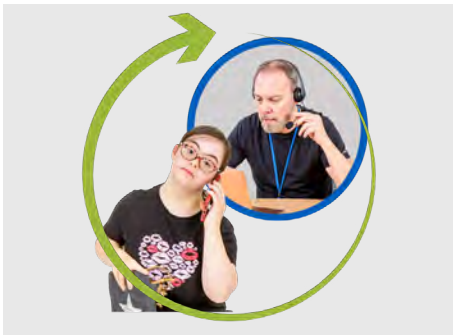


PWDA agrees with this recommendation.



We think all restrictive practices must be stopped being used everywhere.

# Position 17 - How people with disability can make a complaint



The Royal Commission recommends the Australian government make it easy for people with disability

- To report a problem



- Make a **complaint**.

A **complaint** is when you speak up if you are not happy about something.

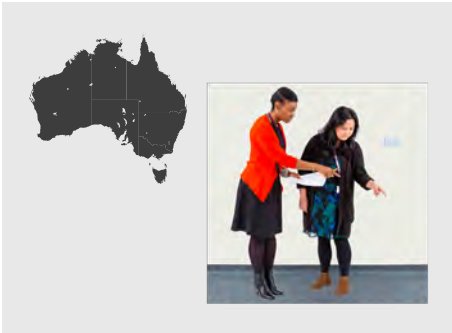


PWDA supports this recommendation.



We think people with disability must be a part of making it easier for people to make complaints and report a problem.

# Position 18 - Community visitor schemes



The Royal Commission recommends all Australian governments have a **Community Visitor Scheme**.



**Community Visitor Schemes** check how well disability services are

- Protecting the rights of people with disability



- Stopping **abuse** and **neglect** from happening

**Abuse** is when someone hurts you with their body or words.

**Neglect** is when someone does not support you how they are meant to.



- Keeping people with disability safe.

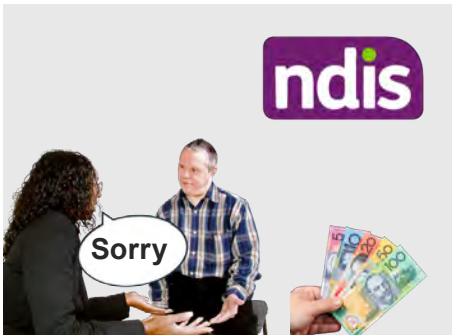


PWDA supports this recommendation



We think all Community Visitor Schemes must be given more resources so they can do their jobs well.

# Position 19 - Redress scheme



The Royal Commission recommends NDIS service providers have a **redress scheme** for people with disability.



A **redress scheme** is a program for people with disability who have gone through

- **Violence**

**Violence** is when someone hurts you very bad.

- Abuse

- Neglect

- **Exploitation.**

**Exploitation** is when someone makes you do things you do not want.





The program could help people get things like

- **Compensation**

**Compensation** is when you get money for when someone does something wrong to you.



- An apology.



PWDA recommends a national redress scheme be made for all people with disability.



If you would like to contact us you can call or email us.



Call us on **1800 422 015**



Email us at [pwd@pwd.org.au](mailto:pwd@pwd.org.au)